



4th Tank Battalion

Commander's Philosophy

4 March 2012



4th Tank Battalion has an excellent reputation. I look forward to the next two years serving as your commander and am confident that together we will be successful.

I subscribe to the motto "mission first, people always". My priorities for the battalion are:

- Produce tactically and technically proficient companies, platoons and Marines capable of supporting the FMF.
- Develop better Marines and Sailors. Our Marines and Sailors will be better citizens when they leave their service than when they entered because we have instilled discipline and high values in them.
- Keep the faith. We will support the welfare of all members of the battalion; including their families.

In achieving these priorities it is important for you to understand how I operate. The following guidance is intended to help you with your decision making process:

Act Like Marines!

- We are Marines, be proud of it!
- Stay physically fit, disciplined and continually strive to improve.
- We are warriors. Be aggressive, decisive and proactive.

Keep Your Honor Clean!

- Have the moral courage to do the right thing all the time, especially when nobody is looking.
- Expect nothing less from the Marines and Sailors you work with.
- Never compromise your values.

One Team One Fight!

- Train, fight and work as a team.
- Get to know one another. Take care of each other.

- Everyone, regardless of rank or position will be treated with dignity and respect.
- Every member of this battalion should feel confident that their brothers in arms have their back. We don't leave our own.

Train Hard.

- Train like we are deploying for combat tomorrow because we just may.
- Be brilliant in the basics and continually challenge yourself and your peers to perform better.

Operational Risk Management.

- Do it.
- Mitigate and never compromise safety. No training is worth risking serious injury or the life of our Marines or Sailors.

Support Our Families.

- Families are an integral part of this battalion; keep them informed and involved.
- Marines with strong support networks at home are able to better focus on their mission.

I am humbled by the privilege of serving as your commander. I take great pride in this command and in our battalion. I will work diligently to be the commander you deserve.

Semper Fidelis,

Brian D. Kelly
LtCol, USMC
Commanding Officer